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CAPITOL RESTORATION RECORDS
1844-1990
(BULK 1984-1990)
RG 267

ROLLS

1. Scope and Contents, Box 1, Folder thru Box 3, Folder 6.
2. Box 3, Folder 7 thru Box 6, Three Ring Binder.

March 25, 1999
16mm film

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TENNESSEE STATE CAPITOL COMMISSION CAPITOL RESTORATION RECORDS 1844-1990 [bulk 1984-1990]

RECORD GROUP 267

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INTRODUCTION

Record Group 267, Tennessee State Capitol Commission, Capitol Restoration Records, spans the years 1844 through 1990, with the majority of the records focusing on the years 1984 through 1990. These records pertain to the restoration of certain interior spaces of the Tennessee State Capitol building that include the Old State Library, the Old Supreme Court Chamber, and the 1st and 2nd floor corridors. Record Group 267 contains the documents, photographs, and research materials created by the Tennessee State Capitol Commission.

This collection is contained in eight Hollinger boxes and is arranged in 15 series. The 15 series are arranged by subject and includes one series of photographs and one series of 28 audio tapes of Capitol Commission meetings from 1986 and 1987. The original size of the collection was approximately five cubic feet and was reduced to 4 cubic feet by the elimination of duplicate documents.

This record group has been microfilmed and the original documents have been retained. There are no restrictions on the use of materials in this collection.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

Tennessee State Capitol Commission, Capitol Restoration Records, Record Group 267, consists of the records of the commission established by the State of Tennessee for the purpose of restoring certain portions of the interior spaces of the Tennessee State Capitol Building. The State Capitol Commission fell under the auspices of the Department of General Services. During the time span that the records cover, the Department of General Services had two Commissioners, Susan Simons and William B. Whitson. Some documents in this collection reflect these two individuals. The Tennessee Blue Book of 1989-1990 describes the charge of the commission as developing a plan and establishing policies to restore, preserve, maintain, and control the non-governmental use of the State Capitol and grounds.

The documents in this collection came to the State Archives in good, clean condition but the arrangement was not apparent. A large amount of duplicate documents were included and removed during processing. The collection was then arranged by series. The 15 series included in the collection are arranged chronologically where possible.

Series #1 includes historical background and research notes. These notes relate to past restoration projects and to the minutes of the Committee for Building the State Capitol from 1844 to 1861.

Series #2 contains responses from questionnaires that were sent to each state in an effort to ascertain what other states had done relating to restoration and preservation of their capitol buildings.

Series #3 contains documents concerning the legislation passed to give authorization for the restoration project and creating the commission.

Series #4 includes documents related to the committees and sub-committees created by the commission. Minutes, agenda, correspondence, and notes are included at the folder level for the individual committees and sub-committees listed. The 94th General Assembly passed bills creating the Capitol Commission which superseded the Capitol Restoration Committee. The members on the Capitol Commission included the State Constitutional Officers, members of the House and Senate, three private citizens, and chairman of the Tennessee Historical Society. The Capitol Commission's work was to see that the recommendations of *The Historic Structures Report* were implemented. The responsibility of the Executive Committee was to establish a 200 member statewide Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee's primary accomplishment was authorizing *The Historic Structures Report*.

Series #5 contains the documents pertaining to the selection of architects, contractors, and suppliers. Samples of previous works by the various firms are included.

Series #6 contains the documents related to the production of *The Historic Structures Report*. One of the first priorities of the restoration project was to research, develop, and publish this document. The firm of Mendel, Mesick, Cohen, Waite & Hall was chosen to produce the book. A copy of *The Historic Structures Report* is not included in this collection but can be found in the library collection.

Series #7 includes the documents related to an event referred to as the Legislative Picnic. The picnic took place in the Jackson Garden on the grounds of the Capitol. Guest lists, correspondence, photographs, and financial statements are included.

Series #8 includes the correspondence of three individuals, Commissioner Susan Simons, Amon Carter Evans, and John Kiser. Susan Simons was commissioner of General Services, Amon Carter Evans was chairman of the Executive Committee and former publisher of *The Tennessean* newspaper, and John Kiser was a consultant on the project.

Series #9 includes official policies as set by the Department of General Services and the State Building Commission pertaining to the use and maintenance of the Capitol Building. Also included in this series are six documents from 1986 pertaining to the feasibility of producing television coverage of the General Assembly.

Series #10 contains 14 subject areas where a small amount of information on each topic or object is included.

Series #11 contains the documents related to the restoration and furnishing of the Old State Library room.

Series #12 is an alphabetical arrangement of files that do not relate directly to any other series in this collection.

Series #13 is the three ring binder notebook compiled by Commissioner Susan Simons. The book evidently was her working notebook during the restoration project. The arrangement of the book was not disturbed or changed during processing and therefore will contain some duplication of documents.

Series #14 contains photographs. The photographs are arranged by subject and are located in the vault at area I-D-3v. The photographs are not indexed.

Series #15 contains 28 audio tapes of Capitol Commission Meetings from August 11, 1986 through April 20, 1987. These are the only known tape recordings of Capitol Commission Meetings in the Audio Tape Collection of the Tennessee State Archives.

Prominent individuals included in this collection are Governor Lamar Alexander; C. Lewis Lavine, Chief of Staff to the Governor; Amon Carter Evans; John Kiser, consultant; Commissioner Susan Simons; Commissioner William B. Whitson; Director Lois Riggins-Ezell, Tennessee State Museum; and Mike Fitts, State Architect.

CONTAINER LIST

BOX #1

Series #1

Historical Background & Research Notes

FOLDER #:

1. Research Bibliography & Notes
2. Articles--Capitol Histories
3. Article--"Yesteryear In Nashville; An Almanac of Nashville History"
4. Article--Past Repairs & Renovations
5. Historical Sketch--*Tennessee State Capitol*
6. Report--*Capitol Hill Redevelopment Project*, 1952
7. Furnishings
8. Minutes--Committee for Building the State Capitol, 1844
9. Minutes--Committee for Building the State Capitol, 1845
10. Minutes--Committee for Building the State Capitol, 1847
11. Minutes--Committee for Building the State Capitol, 1849
12. Minutes--Committee for Building the State Capitol, 1851
13. Minutes--Committee for Building the State Capitol, 1853
14. Minutes--Committee for Building the State Capitol, 1855
15. Minutes--Committee for Building the State Capitol, 1857
16. Minutes--Committee for Building the State Capitol, 1859
17. Minutes--Committee for Building the State Capitol, 1861
18. Minutes--State Building Commission, 1967-Changes to Legislative Chambers
19. Recommendations, 1983-1984

Series #2

Questionnaires

FOLDER #:

1. Questionnaire Responses--Alabama-Louisiana
2. Questionnaire Responses--Maine-North Carolina
3. Questionnaire Responses--North Dakota-Wyoming
4. Directory--*State Capitol Preservation Project*, 1984

BOX #2

Series #3

Legislation--Authorization

FOLDER #:

1. Resolution--State Capitol Commission
2. Legislation--Executive Order #66
3. Legislation--Senate Bill # 1982

<p style="text-align: center;">Series #4 Committees & Sub-Committees</p>

FOLDER #:

1. Advisory Committee--Preliminary List
2. Capitol Commission--Minutes, 1986-1987
3. Capitol Commission--Agenda, 1986-1987
4. Executive Committee--Interim, 1984
5. Executive Committee--Selection
6. Executive Committee--Meetings, 1985-1986
7. Advisory Committee--Appointments
8. Advisory Committee--Appointments--Non-Acceptance
9. Advisory Committee--Correspondence, 1985-1986
10. Advisory Committee--Sub-Committee Notices
11. Advisory Committee--Meetings
12. Advisory Sub-Committees--Members--Listing by Name
13. Advisory Sub-Committees--Historic Research
14. Advisory Sub-Committees--Physical Structures
15. Advisory Sub-Committees--Landscape & Grounds
16. Advisory Sub-Committees--Furnishings & Decoration
17. Advisory Sub-Committees--Historic Collections
18. Advisory Sub-Committees--Public Relations & Education
19. Advisory Sub-Committees--Administrative/Legislative
20. Advisory Sub-Committees--Long Range Utilization
21. Advisory Sub-Committees--Finance
22. Capitol Commission--Furnishing & Decoration Sub-Committee
23. Report--State Capitol Commission to Fiscal Review Committee
24. Report--Amon Evans to Building Commission
25. Minutes & Notes--Architect's Meetings, 1986-1987

BOX #3**Series #5
Contractors****FOLDER #:**

1. Exterior Restoration--Report to the State Building Commission
2. Exterior Restoration--The Ehrenkrantz Group
3. Exterior Restoration--Henry Judd, Consultant
4. Exterior Restoration--Mendel, Mesick, Cohen, Waite, Hall
5. Consultant Samples--Street & Street Architects
6. Consultant Samples--Waterfield, Goodwin/The Ehrenkrantz Group
7. Consultant Samples--Biltmore, Campbell, Smith Restorations, Inc.
8. Consultant Samples--Metalwork--F. Boesel
9. Consultant Samples--Holmes & Holmes, Architects
10. Consultant Samples--The Ehrenkrantz Group
11. Consultant Samples--Mendel, Mesick, Cohen, Waite, Hall, Architects
12. Contractor Selection--Guidelines
13. Contractor Selection--Forms
14. Consultant List--Possible Contacts
15. Proposed Contract--Consultants
16. Contract--Mendel, Mesick, Cohen, Waite, & Hall
17. Correspondence-- Mendel, Mesick, Cohen, Waite, & Hall

**Series #6
Historic Structures Report****FOLDER #:**

1. Preliminary Work
2. Guidelines & Evaluations
3. Proposal--The Ehrenkrantz Group
4. Proposal--Mendel, Mesick, Cohen, Waite, & Hall
5. Proposal--John Milner Associates
6. Proposal--Waterfield, Goodwin Associates
7. Proposal--Waterfield/Holmes
8. Captioned Photographs--Photocopies
9. Distribution
10. Printing Information

BOX #4

**Series #7
Legislative Picnic**

FOLDER #:

1. Events
2. Guest List
3. Bills

**Series #8
Correspondence**

FOLDER #:

1. Commissioner Susan Simons
2. Amon Carter Evans
3. John Kiser--To
4. John Kiser--From

**Series #9
Policies**

FOLDER #:

1. State Building Commission, 1978
2. State Capitol & Grounds Usage, 1986
3. Furnishings, Interior Design & Acquisitions, 1986
4. Guidelines for Contractor Selection
5. Maintenance & Operations
6. Television Coverage of the General Assembly

**Series #10
Renovated Areas and Objects**

FOLDER #:

1. Capitol Grounds
2. Governor's Office
3. Press Box--Relocation
4. Chandelier--House Chamber
5. Chandeliers--Beaumont Glass Co.
6. Flag-Pole--Placement
7. Holocaust Plaque
8. Velour Rope
9. Chairs--Senate & House Chambers
10. Chairs--Supreme Court Room
11. Benches
12. Marble Mantel
13. Joe C. Carr Bust--Resolution
14. Governor Brownlow Portrait

BOX #5**Series #11
Library****FOLDER #:**

1. Cabinets
2. Carpet
3. Chandelier
4. Cornices
5. Draperies
6. Expenses
7. Morgan Chairs
8. Notes--Historical
9. Notes--Job Site Meetings
10. Sofas
11. Tables
12. Venetian Blinds

**Series #12
Alphabetical****FOLDER #:**

1. Agreement, Contract--John Kiser
2. Book Proposal - A book on the Tennessee State Capitol
3. Budgets--Phasing & Funding
4. Legislative Services--Duties & Responsibilities
5. Logo--TN State Capitol Restoration
6. Press Releases--Sept. 20, 1985
7. Purchase Orders--Sole Source & Direct Purchase Authority
8. Security Report
9. Slide Show Distribution List--Universities & Colleges
10. Timetable--Department of General Services, 1985-1987
11. Timetable--Design Bid Construction

BOX # 6**Series #13
Notebook--Susan Simons, Commissioner**

1. Three Ring Binder

BOX #7**VAULT LOCATION: I-D-3v****Series #14
Photographs****FOLDER #:**

1. Architectural Drawings - 3 Views
2. Exterior Views-Lithograph Photographs - 6 Views
3. Exterior Views-Photographs - 29 views
4. Exterior Light Standard - 4 Views
5. House of Representatives - 6 Views
6. Jackson Garden - 1 View
7. Landscape Painting - 4 Views
8. Legislative Picnic, 1986 - 16 Views
9. Library--Before Restoration - 19 Views
10. Library--Restored Ceiling - 7 Views
11. Library--Models for Ceiling Portraits - 4 Slides
12. Office Interiors - 2 Views
13. Previous State Capitols - 3 Views
14. Senate Chamber - 2 Views
15. Supreme Court Chamber Furniture - 13 Views
16. Wooden Benches - 9 Views
17. Unidentified Group--Possible Committee Members - 2 Views

BOX #8**VAULT LOCATION: I-D-3v****Series #15
Capitol Commission Meetings--Tape Recordings****MEETING DATE: TAPE #:**

8-11-86	1
8-27-86	1 - 2
9-12-86	1 - 2
9-29-86	1 - 5
10-7-86	1 - 5
12-8-86	1 - 5
1-12-87	1 - 3
4-20-87	1 - 5